REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed concurrently with the aboveidentified national stage patent application, under 35 U.S.C. §371. Applicant is requesting amendment of the claims as set forth in the foregoing listing, prior to calculation of the filing fee. The amendments to the claims remove multiple dependencies of the claims.

With the claims as amended, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are now in condition for allowance, and early notification of allowability is respectfully requested. Should any questions arise in connection with the foregoing, please contact Thomas L. Lockhart at the telephone number of (616) 336-6000.

Respectfully submitted, FRANCISCUS ANTONIUS PRONK; et al.

Date 3/8/20020

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